



**6712-01**

## **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**[OMB 3060-0819; FRS 16500]**

### **Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collections. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov) and to [Nicole.ongele@fcc.gov](mailto:Nicole.ongele@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele, (202) 418-2991.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**OMB Control Number:** 3060–0819.

**Title:** Bridging the Digital Divide for Low-Income Consumers, Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support.

**Form Numbers:** FCC Form 481, FCC Form 497, FCC Form 555, FCC Form 5629, FCC Form 5630, FCC Form 5631.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently approved collection.

**Respondents:** Individuals or households and business or other for-profit enterprises.

**Number of Respondents and Responses:** 18,335,775 respondents; 20,102,235 responses.

**Estimated Time per Response:** .0167 hours–125 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** Annual, biennial, monthly, daily and on occasion reporting requirements, recordkeeping requirement and third-party disclosure requirement.

**Obligation to Respond:** Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority is contained in Sections 1, 4(i), 5, 201, 205, 214, 219, 220, 254, 303(r), and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and section 706 of the Communications Act of 1996, as amended; 47 U.S.C. §§ 151, 154(i), 155, 201, 205, 214, 219, 220, 254, 303(r), 403, and 1302.

**Total Annual Burden:** 8,531,854 hours.

**Total Annual Cost:** \$937,500.

**Privacy Act Impact Assessment:** Yes. The Commission completed a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) for some of the information collection requirements contained in this collection. The PIA was published in the Federal Register at 82 FR 38686 on August 15, 2017. The PIA may be reviewed at: [http://www.fcc.gov/omd/privacyact/Privacy\\_Impact\\_Assessment.html](http://www.fcc.gov/omd/privacyact/Privacy_Impact_Assessment.html).

**Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:** Some of the requirements contained in this information collection affect individuals or households, and thus, there are impacts under the Privacy Act. The FCC's system of records notice (SORN) associated with this collection is FCC/WCB-1, "Lifeline Program."

The Commission will use the information contained in FCC/WCB-1 to cover the personally identifiable information (PII) that is required as part of the Lifeline Program ("Lifeline").

As required by the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Commission published FCC/WCB-1 "Lifeline Program" in the Federal Register on August 15, 2017 (82 FR 38686).

Also, respondents may request materials or information submitted to the Commission or to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC or Administrator) be withheld from public inspection under 47 CFR 0.459 of the FCC's rules. We note that USAC must preserve the confidentiality of all data obtained from respondents; must not use the data except for purposes of administering the universal service programs; and must not disclose data in company-specific form unless directed to do so by the Commission.

**Needs and Uses:** The Commission will submit this information collection after this 60-day comment period to obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of revisions to this information collection.

On October 30, 2019, the Commission adopted the Bridging the Digital Divide for Low-Income Consumers, WC Docket Nos, 17–287, 11–42, 09–197, Fifth Report and Order, Memorandum Opinion and Order and Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking FCC 19–111 (2019) (2019 Lifeline Order). The Lifeline Fifth Report and Order restores the traditional state and federal roles in designating eligible telecommunications carriers (ETC) and eliminates the Lifeline Broadband Provider (LBP) category. The Order also codifies a requirement that enrollment representatives must register with USAC before interacting with USAC’s systems. Finally, the 2019 Lifeline Order implements several process and procedural changes to further bolster program integrity efforts. These changes require minor modifications to the previously approved requirements. The changes made by the Lifeline Fifth Report and Order have a moderate impact on overall burden, increasing the burden hours for some requirements and decreasing the burden hours for other requirements.

**Federal Communications Commission.**

**Marlene Dortch,**

Secretary,

Office of the Secretary.

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